

**ASSOCIATION OF ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES  
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING  
1996  
INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD**

**ANDREW S. ROBB**

Andy Robb is described by his peers as an outstanding teacher who has had an enormous influence on transforming the culture of teaching, both within and outside the University of Prince Edward Island. One of the most highly respected members of faculty, and one of the most outstanding contributors to teaching and curriculum development at the University, Andy Robb's influence on curriculum and instruction has been consistently important for a quarter of a century. He brought fresh ideas to the University in the 1970s and he continues to find and introduce new concepts in the 1990s.

As his teaching dossier reveals, Andy Robb initially concentrated on the true starting point of instructional development, that is the curriculum that students must follow. Long before the idea was well accepted, he succeeded in promoting interdisciplinary studies, first in Canadian Studies, then in the Freshman Experience course. The leadership that Andy Robb provides is built on a base of exceptional classroom performance. He boldly embraces methods of active learning and teaching and recognizes that good instruction requires student participation and that, in turn, requires explicit attention to their skill development.

Espousing the belief that teaching skills transcend the ability to lecture well, Andy Robb studies, uses and promotes improved pedagogical methods. He was instrumental in the establishment of the UPEI Senate Committee for the Enhancement of Teaching. Colleagues attest to the fact that teaching at the University of Prince Edward Island has benefited immensely from the energy, activities and example of Andy Robb and that many have become better teachers because of him.

An outstanding scholar who has distinguished himself in the Canadian context, Andy Robb has been invited to offer presentations at regional, national and international conferences and is acknowledged by one of his peers as being in the vanguard of development and of research in courses dedicated to improving the skills of first year students.

His development of the Freshman Experience course, his tireless promotion of both the content and the instructional innovations it involves, and his related publications which address the needs of both students and faculty, make Andy Robb a most deserving recipient of the 1996 Association of Atlantic Universities' Instructional Leadership Award.